Adulteration of Diesel and Kerosene

†643. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adulteration of Kerosene oil in diesel has become a common feature now;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering to hike the price of Kerosene oil on the pretext of tackling this problem;

(c) if so, whether Government would contemplate on some alternative measures also; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Instances of Kerosene being used to adulterate MS & HSD have come to the notice. This is owing to the price differential between kerosene and Diesel & Petrol.

(b) to (d) As per the phased programme of dismantling the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), consumer prices of Diesel and Petrol are to be moved towards import parity. Kerosene for public distribution will carry a subsidy of 33.3% of the import parity prices. These changes are scheduled to be put in place by March, 2002.

Use of LPG in Cars

†644. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had taken a decision to permit use of LPG in cars to check growing pollution in the cities and from that point of view the process of manufacturing special LPG cylinders is in progress;

(b) if so, whether in January, 2001 a warning was published in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

various daily news papers that if any car running of LPG found plying on the roads that car would be impounded;

(c) if so, whether it shows the discrepancy in Government's policy and its implementation; and

(d) whether Government would clear its stand in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Government have taken 'in-principle' decision to permit the use of LPG as an auto fuel. However, at present, use of LPG is not permitted for automotive purpose under provisions of LPG (Restriction on Use) Order, 1974. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas is in the process of formulating a new LPG (Regulation of Use in Motor Vehicles), Order and till its publication, use of LPG as an auto fuel stands prohibited.

Increase in transportation charges of Petrol and Diesel

†645. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the oil companies particularly Bharat Petroleum have made on agreement to increase the tanker fare for transportation of diesel and Petrol through road;

(b) if so, the date on which this agreement was made together with the details thereof;

(c) whether the agreement has come into force; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Tenders for transportation of petrol and diesel are floated by the Industry Co-ordinators for all the States in each Region through Joint Industry Public Tender on behalf of all Oil Marketing Companies viz. BPCL, IOC, HPCL & IBP. The

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